



**Representative Louise M. Slaughter**  
**Chairwoman, House Committee on Rules**  
**Representing New York's 28<sup>th</sup> District**

# **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

**Rep. Slaughter Secures \$25,716,000 in Federal Funding for NY-28 in FY09 Appropriations**

*Today the House Passed \$8,216,000 Secured by Slaughter for NY-28 in Addition to \$17,500,000 She Secured Late Last Year*

**Washington, DC** - Congresswoman Louise M. Slaughter (D-NY-28), Chairwoman of the House Committee on Rules, today announced \$8,216,000 in federal funding she secured for key projects in the 28th Congressional District of New York included in the fiscal year 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act, a package of nine FY09 appropriations bill that have not yet been enacted. Today, Rep. Slaughter joined colleagues in the House of Representatives in passing the Omnibus.

This critical federal funding comes to NY-28 in addition to \$17.5 million Rep. Slaughter secured in three previously enacted FY09 appropriations bills late last year.

**"I am proud to announce millions of dollars in federal funding I secured for Western New York," said Rep. Slaughter. "These federal dollars will fund important initiatives to improve our cities and neighborhoods, strengthen our communities, support hospitals and schools, and our service men and women. Importantly, our entire community will benefit as this money is invested into Western New York, creating jobs and stimulating our economy."**

This federal funding will provide for initiatives to support hospitals and schools, strengthen community programs, improve regional transportation, develop renewable energy sources, and advance security and protective equipment for our Armed Forces.

It is expected that the Senate will take up the Omnibus package shortly. Once the Senate passes the legislation it will be sent to President Obama's desk to be signed into law.

## BACKGROUND

In October 2008, three FY09 appropriations bills, Defense, Military Construction, and Homeland Security, were enacted. Rep. Slaughter secured \$17,500,000 for projects in her Congressional District in this legislation.

Today, the House passed H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act, which includes the remaining nine appropriations bills that have not yet been enacted: (1) Labor, Health and Education, (2) Commerce, Justice and Science, (3) Transportation, House and Urban Development, (4) State and Foreign Operations, (5) Energy and Water, (6) Interior and the Environment, (7) Financial Services, (8) Agriculture, and (9) Legislative Branch. These appropriations bills include an additional \$8,216,000 secured by Rep. Slaughter for her district.

The local initiatives that will be funded follow:

### **\$8.5 Million Secured for FY09 Defense Projects (Enacted)**

**\$2.9 million for Hauptman-Woodward to build on research to prevent brain and lung damage caused by battlefield trauma.**

In recent conflicts, the number of traumatic brain injuries associated with blast effects has increased significantly. Armor reduces the mortality rate by limiting injuries incurred by projectiles; however, it does not protect against the pressure from explosive blasts. The lungs and brain are especially susceptible to blast injury. Hauptman-Woodward will use this funding to build on their current research by establishing a program to understand the complete oxidative stress prevention system of the brain and lungs through biochemical and biophysical structural-based techniques.

**\$2.4 million for Rochester Institute of Technology and Delphi Corporation to accelerate development of Delphi's Flex-fuel Fuel Cell.**

The Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies at the Rochester Institute of Technology and the Powertrain Systems Division at Delphi Corporation are currently undertaking a joint research and demonstration initiative to accelerate the application of fuel cell technology into U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) stationary and mobile systems. Rochester is now one of the world's leading fuel cell development hubs. To capitalize on this strength, this funding positions RIT to assist Delphi Automotive get their Rochester-developed fuel cell ready for mass production in as soon as 2012. An agreement is in place that ensures any fuel cell technology developed in Rochester will be manufactured in Rochester-not overseas.

**\$1.6 million for the University of Rochester to develop fuel cells and biosensors.**

The University of Rochester's Nanosystems Initiative, a nanotechnology research center, specializes in developing fuel cells and biosensors. Nanosystems for energy, especially fuel cells, and nanosystems for sensors are two of the most fertile scientific, military and commercial areas of development. This funding will be used to further the work of the Nanosystems Initiative.

**\$800,000 for Vuzix to develop GPS devices to track troops in the field.**

The Department of Defense (DoD) relies heavily on GPS for navigation and precision location of forces. There are limited, but very militarily important circumstances where the GPS signal is not available at critical times (when military forces enter caves or other underground spaces, inside many buildings, or under thick foliage). For those situations DoD does not have a good electronic means of precise location or reporting of personnel. Vuzix would use these funds to develop initial prototypes for testing, conduct operational evaluations, and deliver a number of final systems for formal Army testing and evaluation.

**\$800,000 for BioBlower Technologies to develop prototypes to destruct airborne pathogens.**

BioBlower Technologies, a growing UB high-tech spin-off, will use this funding to design, test and build prototypes for deployment in a real environment to optimize performance and finalize mission requirements for DoD procurement. The immediate application is the BioBlower being part of an integrated system which DoD currently uses for inflatable shelters on the battlefield in Iraq.

**\$9 Million Secured for FY09 Military Construction Project (Enacted)**

**\$9 million for the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station to construct a state of the art dining facility and community activity center.**

The current dining facility at the Base is suffering from structural deficiencies that will continue to worsen, likely resulting in increased maintenance costs and ultimately posing a safety hazard to occupants. The new facility will house a Base Community Center, Dining Facilities, and other joint use activities for the 914th Air Wing, the 107th Air Reserve Wing and the six military units comprising the Army Reserve/Guard Center. The new facility will improve the quality of life of the service men and women stationed at the Base, encourage future investment in the Base and increase the capacity of the Base to station additional troops.

**\$3.657 Million Secured for FY09 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Projects (House Passed)**

**\$712,500 for the interior restoration of Shea's Buffalo Theatre.**

Shea's, an 82 years old theater on the Federal List of Historic Places, will use the funding to complete interior restoration in compliance with historic preservation guidelines.

**\$950,000 for City of Rochester transportation improvements around Midtown Plaza.**

The financial and physical deterioration of Midtown Plaza has had a negative economic impact on downtown Rochester, including the loss of hundreds of jobs and significant tax revenue, as well as the discouragement of new investment. In 2007, the State of New York and PAETEC Communications announced a major public-private partnership to redevelop the old Midtown Plaza into a mixed-use project. The City of Rochester will use this funding to construct a new network of streets, pedestrian pathways, and other related transportation improvements around the Midtown Plaza site.

**\$950,000 for the Niagara Falls International Railway Station & Intermodal Transportation Center.**

The funding would be used to create a rail centered multi-modal, multi-function transportation facility that coordinates passenger rail, freight rail, cross-border infrastructure, local transit and surface transportation in Niagara Falls. Rep. Slaughter previously secured \$4.7M for phase one of this project.

**\$950,000 for the Jefferson Avenue Rehabilitation Project.**

Funding will be used for the design and construction of improvements to Jefferson Avenue between West Main Street and South Plymouth Avenue in Rochester, as part of an overall

redevelopment of the Jefferson Avenue corridor. Potential road improvements include curb bump-outs, improved landscaping, repaired sidewalks, and pedestrian amenities such as benches and trash receptacles. Additionally, enhanced street lighting will improve security in the area by increasing visibility and deterring drug and gang activity. Improvements to Jefferson Avenue will also ensure a more walkable street through repaired sidewalks, new crosswalks, and bike racks to ensure multi-modal accessibility for all.

**\$95,000 for the renovation of the community center at the Community Place of Greater Rochester.**

A former church, this 38,000-square-foot building houses a Senior Center, Foster Grandparent/Senior Companion Programs, the Beacon Youth Development Center, and a Family Services Unit.

**\$1.665 Million for FY09 Labor, Health, and Education Projects (House Passed)**

**\$285,000 for the Erie County Medical Center.**

This funding will be used to expand the capacity of the trauma center operating room.



**\$381,000 for the George Eastman House to expand their digital media collection and learning efforts.**

Eastman House will use the funds to begin the process of remapping its mission to allow the resources of its collections and expertise to live and interact with its audience within the online universe. This project will help create an expansive and sharable model for the online archiving of entire museum exhibitions.

**\$381,000 for Rochester General Hospital for facility and technology upgrades to the Emergency department.**

The funds will provide for facility and technology upgrades to the Emergency Department. The technology upgrade will include new cardiac monitors, MRI, CT Scan, an electronic medical record and logistics system and digital radiography.

**\$285,000 for Canisius College Science Center**

The funds will be used to equip a state-of-the-art Interdisciplinary Science Center for Canisius College. The new science center will enable the college to build on the strength of its successful undergraduate science programs. The Center will create a new model for how science is taught and pursued at Canisius..

**\$333,000 for Kaleida Health to relocate clinical services to the Buffalo-Niagara Medical Campus.**

Kaleida is moving forward on the creation of a new academically oriented medical center integrating the key programs and personnel of Buffalo General Hospital and Millard Fillmore Gates Circle Hospital. The funds will be used for equipment for the new facility.

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**\$721,000 for FY09 Energy and Water Projects (House Passed)**

**\$475,750 for a feasibility study on Niagara River Hydropower.**

The funding would be used to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of carrying out a project for a low-head hydroelectric generating facility in the Niagara River.

**\$96,000 to develop the Niagara River Watershed Management Plan.**

The funding would be used to assess the health of the Niagara River and develop a strategy for clean-up.

**\$150,000 to develop the Niagara River Area of Concern.**

Funding will be used to recommend a watershed restoration plan to renew and protect Cayuga Creek, a sub-basin tributary to Niagara River. Problems in Cayuga Creek include lack of coordinated watershed planning and management, flooding of residential properties, woody debris and refuse accumulation along portions of the creek, erosion of the creek banks, water quality issues, contaminated sediments, loss of fish and wildlife habitat, and loss and degradation of riparian corridors. Shoreline practices and external influences have exacerbated these problems.

**\$1.325 Million for FY09 Commerce, Justice, and Science Projects (House passed)**

**\$100,000 for the Police Athletic League of Buffalo.**

Funding will be used to continue and expand upon programs to benefit at-risk youth in the City of Buffalo.

**\$100,000 for the Police Athletic League of Niagara Falls.**

The funding would be used for general support for programming for athletic activities integrating the youth and police.

**\$675,000 for the City of Rochester's "zero tolerance" anti-crime initiative.**

Funding will be used to maintain and enhance the Mayor's "Zero Tolerance" Anti-Crime Initiative, with particular emphasis on intensifying the traffic and pedestrian patrol detail, improving the City's ability to track the movement of narcotics, providing technical support for the Police Department's staff, and enhancing local crime prevention programs for at-risk youth.

**\$450,000 for the City of Buffalo's law enforcement technology initiative.**

Funding will be used to help the Buffalo Police Department complete the final phase of the Buffalo law enforcement initiative to purchase and install a city-wide surveillance camera system with ShotSpotter technology, targeting crime "hot spots" to help deter violent crime, identify offenders, and provide enhanced homeland security along the border.

**\$750,000 for a FY09 Interior Project (House Passed)**

**\$750,000 for the Durand Eastman Beach Water Quality Improvement Project. □**

In the summer of 2006, the City of Rochester obtained a temporary permit to reopen a swimming area at Durand Eastman Beach for the first time in 40 years. The permit requires special monitoring of water quality to ensure the safety of swimmers at the beach. The chief cause of poor water quality is E.coli bacteria contamination of the near shore area, associated with stream outfalls crossing the beach in six locations. The City of Rochester will use the funding to implement water quality improvements for the Camp Eastman and Sherry Swamp tributaries. These tributaries are the focus of water quality and stormwater diversion and treatment initiatives because they contribute to much of the polluted run off water present at Durand Eastman Beach, and because they are located near the proposed bathing beach alternative locations.

**\$98,000 for a FY09 Financial Services Project (House Passed)**

**\$98,257 for the Urban League of Rochester's Minority and Women Business Development Programs.□**

The Urban League of Rochester will use these funds to continue expanding its minority and women business development services, with a specific focus on the Jefferson Avenue corridor. Services provided include start-up, business development, business retention, and business expansion services through intensive workshops and technical assistance.

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